

## HOW THE SOLDIER LIVES.

A Glimpse of His Life at the Largest Military Post in the Northwest.

It is an Easy Existence, With no Responsibilities and Fair Pay.

Few Amusements, but Many Advantages to the Average Soldier—Character of the Recruits.

PORT ASSINIBOINE, Dec. 14.—[Special.]—If there is any one line on which the ignorance of the American people may be said to be general it is on military subjects. One of the curious phases of this lack of knowledge is the popular conception of the duties and life of the common soldier. This is the result of a lack of opportunities rather than a lack of intelligence. There are so few military posts situated in populous centers that the people at large have no means of learning what military life is. They believe that recruiting stations are traps to catch credulous fellows who imagine they are going to a life of gold lace, glittering steel and military ruse. They think that once in the toils the recruit becomes a bonded vassal, to be stamped upon by arrogant caparotied superiors. Nothing could be further from the truth, though the large number of desertions seems to corroborate the general belief. A glance into the life, duties and quarters of the private soldier will show the absurdity of such an idea. The character of the recruits is the key to the desertion question. They are mostly men who have been knocked about the world until ambition has given way to discouragement. Many of them have wrestled with rum until they have lost all means to gain a livelihood. The other class of recruits is made of young fellows who go into the service for the novelty of wearing blue clothes and brass buttons. The men of both classes know that their service means good clothing, plenty of food no responsibilities and \$15 a month. They are only asked to obey necessary orders and do a reasonable amount of work. The most natural result to the rovers of these classes is a weariness of the dull, featureless life of a western military post. There are no amusements and when the novelty of their occupation has worn away many of them begin to look for a means of escape. The enlistment for five years is like a term of imprisonment to them without the disgrace, hardships and active confinement of the convicts. The chances of catching a deserter are very small. Here at Assiniboine a soldier can smuggle himself into a civilian's suit, sneak away on a train and that is the last heard of him. Everyone on the life is willing to help him escape. Thus the large number of desertions causes a general belief that the poor soldier's life is wretched beyond conception. He risks almost nothing to gain another opportunity to wrestle with the cold world. His chances are that he will soon wish himself back in the easy and comfortable life of the post.

When the recruit comes here the first thing that he learns is to obey orders always and without question. The importance of this requirement is impressed on his mind by a few weeks' confinement in the guard house in case he undertakes to set up an authority of his own. The regulations are not at all irksome, and if the recruit comes to the post with a determination to cheerfully do his duty he will have no trouble. The most tiresome part of his life is the drill which he is obliged to undergo at the beginning, and yet this only requires two hours a day. When the recruit has become fairly familiar with the drill it becomes a matter of indifference to him so far as the work is concerned. As it is the aim of the department to keep the soldier employed as much as possible there is usually enough work found to keep the men busy. It often happens, however, that there will be an interval of weeks without sufficient to keep any considerable number of men occupied beyond the ordinary routine duties of the post. It is something of a problem to keep 500 men employed when there is no work of special importance to be done. To keep the minds of the soldiers profitably employed the war department has recently introduced a valuable regulation. It is the establishment of a school for the soldiers. Each afternoon for a few hours the men who are not on special duty meet in rooms under the chapel and receive instruction in the common branches. It is interesting to watch the workings of this school of headed men. In one room is the gray bearded chaplain explaining by means of a large rotund globe how the diurnal movements of the earth are made, and the cause for the change of seasons. The instructor is a graduate of Princeton college and a man of culture and intelligence. His success in arousing the interest of his pupils is evidenced by a series of pointed questions on matters not clearly understood. Hung about on the walls are large maps for the use of geography classes and in the corners are appliances for object lessons in the rudiments of the sciences. In another room a class of arithmetic students was reciting. The teacher was one of the soldiers, a young man who thoroughly understood the subject and knew how to explain it in easy stages. The matter of simple division was under discussion. The teacher was not until every scholar was given an opportunity to question his instructor. The earnest and respectful attention given to every step of progress showed a real desire for knowledge of the subject. There was no disposition on the part of the teacher or his pupils to glide over the lesson. The government has not been generous in its provisions for the school. There is an extraordinary lack of supplies in the way of modern text books and ordinary school room appliances. There is apparently no reason for this for it is difficult to see where more useful appropriation could be placed.

The daily routine life of the soldiers begins with the reveille. The quarters are in brick buildings on the north side of the parade ground. Each company has a building of its own. In the sleeping room are rows of iron bedssteads by each wall. These are furnished with white covered mattresses and springs and mattresses with good supplies of blankets. In the center of the room is a large stove, and at each end are iron grates. Everything about the place is kept clean and neat. There is a common mess room for the members of each company. The fare is as good and wholesome as could be asked for by reasonable men. After breakfast there is the change of guard for the day, the guard being selected from the different companies, so that the work will not become a tiresome routine. The men then go about to their labors. Some of them to the mountains to cut wood, others to burn lime, and as the necessities of the post may demand. There is not a total dearth of amusements, a fairly equipped gymnasium is provided for the use of the soldiers and is made good use of. In one end of the room is a stage with several sets of scenery painted by some artistic hand at the post. During the long winter months an occasional entertainment is given by "home talent."

The Fort Assiniboine Military Troupe is a modest organization that prefers rather to keep to old time minstrelsy than to produce the gorgeous spectacular performances of the modern time. An announcement given up by a local printer informed the public of an entertainment to be given on November 1, at the Assiniboine opera house. The troupe, with new scenes, effects and talents will endeavor to surpass all preceding performances. A great array of talent has been engaged. Several cards of the following programme will be seen for the first time this evening: The promising announcement of the manager, Juggling, sword swallowing, jive and song dancing, singing and several farces were features of the programme. Popular prices prevailed at fifty and seventy-five cents. The old black bottle is the greatest enemy of the soldier. It will find its way inside the post in spite of all the precautions that may be devised. The ingenuity shown by the men in getting whisky would make eternal fortunes for them if turned in another line. It rarely happens, however, that one of them is found drunk. The little guard-house at the end of the ground throws upon its doors for him when he is caught in that condition and it is not an inviting place for a residence of any length of time. When the soldier's enlistment is finished he finds a snug sum of money at his disposal if he has taken care of it. This is further increased by five years' interest at 6 per cent, which the government allows on deposits. After the avocations worldlings have completed the consumption of this fund it often happens that "Johnny comes marching home" to his former haven at the military post.

### SUNSET COX'S ESTATE.

Through His Literary Work and Realty Ventures He Left a Snug Fortune.

Mrs. Sunset Cox is in the City, says a Washington letter to the *Courier-Journal*, looking after her property here. Just before she and Mr. Cox started for the west on their summer tour, Mr. Cox bought two lots just back of his residence on New Hampshire avenue and began building two houses. These houses are now completed and will be occupied this winter. They are for rent at \$50 per month each. Sunset Cox was a money-maker and a money-accumulator. He made money in his law practice while he was in New York, and during his last days in congress his writings were very popular. He received \$12,000 for the "Diversions of a Diplomat" before the book went to press, and his estate will get an income from it for two years to come. His "Way We Laugh" still brings in something. And his "Three Decades of Federal Legislation" is still selling. The greatest of his literary profits have been on his two larger works, which have appeared within the last five years. The money from them he has invested in Washington real estate, and his real estate forms a well-paying part of his estate. Mrs. Cox, though not rich, is left in comfortable circumstances.

Mr. Cox had, at the time of his death, four houses in Washington. His wife will derive a comfortable income from these alone. The house on Dupont circle, which Sunset Cox bought originally for \$30,000, he sold on his departure for Turkey for \$50,000, and considered it a good bargain. It was a good bargain. Upon his return he bought the same house back again for \$40,000, and it will rent for from \$150 to \$200 per month. Add to this \$100 a month which Mrs. Cox will have from these two new houses and her income from Washington real estate will be \$250 a month. In addition to this, Mrs. Cox has the residence on New Hampshire avenue, which she and her husband built a few years ago. This is a combination of Moorish and American architecture. It is full of Oriental conceits, and it cost something like \$20,000 to build it. Mrs. Cox and her husband planned the house while they were in Turkey, and they hoped it would be their home for many long years. Mrs. Cox will not sell this house, and she will hold it as her winter Washington home, spending part of the time here and part of the time at her home in New York.

The relations of Mr. and Mrs. Cox were of the closest matrimonial order. Their honeymoon lasted from their wedding to the day of Mr. Cox's death, and they were closely associated in everything. Mrs. Cox knew all of Mr. Cox's plans and she aided him in his literary work and in the furthering of his political aspirations. She guarded his leisure and his working hours, kept the house away from him and prevented his being annoyed by the office-seekers and lobbyists. She accompanied him in all his travels, and I have a picture of Mr. and Mrs. Cox taken by the light of the midnight sun during their travels in Norway. He dictated all his books to her and she was his best literary critic. It is not true that Mr. Cox leaves any unfinished work. He was as methodical in his literary labors as he was in his business matters, and he died with his work finished up to the day of his death. He was during his life a voluminous correspondent, and he answered letters the day he received them, and he answered every one who wrote to him. He was methodical in his work, and I am told there will be no trouble in the settlement of his estate. His private secretary is now in Washington, and he tells me that everything will be practically settled up by the first of next month. Mrs. Cox herself has fine literary taste and it is very probable that she will prepare a memorial biography of her husband. She has not, however, begun it as yet, and there is no certainty as to when the work will appear, or as to whether it will be published under her name as the authoress.

An endless variety of photograph albums at The Bee Hive.

Convenience to Travelers.

The interchange of passenger traffic between the Montana Central and Union Pacific railways has been resumed. Passengers can now purchase through tickets and check their baggage through to or from Union Pacific or Pacific coast points. This includes free transfer at Butte. Passengers for the south connect at Butte with the Union Pacific, leaving Helena at 4 p. m. Ticket office, 34 Granite block.

R. H. LANGLEY, General Ticket Agent, C. W. PITTS, City Ticket Agent.

Fancy China in all designs now opened at The Bee Hive.

We call attention to the announcement of the Journal Publishing Company's sale, on our eighth page. They are making an elegant display of holiday goods. Look at their prices and then deduct the 20 per cent that they are offering for today and this week. This seems impossible, but they are determined to sell out their immense stock of holiday goods, regardless of cost, for the purpose of making room for staple goods. Do not fail to see for yourself.

The goods displayed at the Journal Publishing Company's store are favorably with the goods generally found in the eastern metropolitan cities. They carry only the best and at prices as low as the lowest.

For Next Thirty Days, At almost cost, for the watches, diamonds and jewelry of all description. It will pay you to call and examine, at the Langlands, opposite Comstock hotel, Main street.

The finest line of fancy China cups and saucers, for presentation, ever shown in Montana are now being displayed at The Bee Hive.

Jewel and odor cases of every description at The Bee Hive.

Notwithstanding that The Bee Hive is crowded with holiday goods they will have full line of ladies' and children's underwear and hosiery, which is being sold very cheap.

Dramas, Dramas! Dramas! at The Bee Hive.

Christmas tree ornaments at The Bee Hive.

Gold pens, writing desks, fine box papers at Calkins & Feathers.

Steel track, Krupp car wheels, on the Main street.

Lowest grades, lightest curvatures—on the Manitoba route to St. Paul, Minneapolis and the west.

Barney & Berry's men and boys skate only \$1 per pair at The Bee Hive.

Notice to Shippers.

A through refrigerator car on the Manitoba and Montana Central railways leaves St. Paul every Thursday. Shippers of perishable freights should notice this fact and govern themselves accordingly.

R. H. LANGLEY, General Freight Agent.

## On Broadway

14 Fine Lots,  
3 Choice Corners,  
Residence Lots,  
Business Sites,  
Acre Property.

We can sell you grounds in any part of the City Adapted to your wants and means, for Reasonable Prices and Easy Terms. Large List of Houses for Sale and Rent.

LOANS ON HELENA REAL ESTATE.

## E. S. French & Co

ROOMS 11 and 11½  
Pittsburg Block.

20 PER CENT.

CHEAP SALE DAY!

December 16 and 17,  
MONDAY & TUESDAY

JOURNAL PUB. CO.  
STORE,  
111 N. Main St. Pittsburg Block.

To reduce our immense Holiday Stock and for the purpose of closing out all this class of goods, we offer for two days, Monday and Tuesday of this week, a discount of 20 per cent. on all Holiday articles now displayed in our salesroom.

A partial list of the innumerable attractive articles we carry, suitable for Holiday Presents, together with their extreme range in prices, we append below. Look the list over carefully and you will surely arrive at a solution of the all-absorbing question.

"WHAT SHALL I BUY?"

Beautifully Illustrated Gift Books, at from \$1.00 to \$25.00  
The Standard Authors, in sets, \$1.00 to \$5.00  
Children's Books, singly and in sets, 10c. to \$15.00  
Music Boxes, 25c. to \$5.00  
Opera Glasses, 5.00 to \$50.00  
Field Glasses, 3.00 to \$10.00  
Photograph Albums, 50c. to \$15.00  
Autograph Albums, 1.00 to \$10.00  
Gold Pens and Holders, 1.00 to \$5.00  
Engravings and Engraving, 1.00 to \$5.00  
Xmas Cards, 50c. to \$1.00  
Manicure Sets, 1.00 to \$5.00  
Dressing Cases, 3.00 to \$20.00  
Scented Candles, 5.00 to \$10.00  
Other Cases, 1.00 to \$5.00  
Collar and Cuff Sets, 2.00 to \$10.00  
Work Baskets, 50c. to \$1.50  
Hand Painted Plaques, 2.00 to \$5.00  
Revolving Book Cases, 15.00 to \$20.00  
Pocket Books, 15c. to \$1.00  
Card Cases, 25c. to \$1.00  
Smokers' Sets and Stands, 50c. to \$5.00  
Push and Oxy covered stands, 2.00 to \$5.00  
Mechanical Toys, 50c. to \$1.50  
Games, 10c. to \$5.00  
Purses for ladies, 50c. to \$5.00  
Visiting Lists, 50c. to \$1.00  
Entertainment Menus, 50c. to \$1.00

No Goods Charged, but all Goods Must be Paid for and Taken Away.

Fancy Goods of all kinds and at all prices, etc., etc.

These goods were bought direct from Publishers, Manufacturers and Importers, and were carefully selected with a view to the wants of our customers. They are all of the newest and best designs the market affords and are marked at lowest possible prices. It will be greatly to your advantage to visit our store before making your Holiday purchases.

Remember, these Prices are good for ONLY 30 DAYS.

So call Early and Secure the best Selections.

FRANK ROEDER.

BASEMENT IN ATLAS BUILDING.

I have also the agency for the W. L. DOUGLAS \$3.00 Shoes, of which I have Complete Stock.

E. S. CLARK

Is now Prepared to Deliver

GOOD : DRY : WOOD

to any part of the City.

GOOD MEASURE ALWAYS GUARANTEED.

At R. C. Wallace's, Main Street. Telephone 55.

# SANDS BROS.

## READ AND REMEMBER!

We will place on Sale To-Morrow a Large Assortment of Very Desirable Goods, Suitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS, in all Departments through our entire Establishment—Dress Goods, Dress Patterns, Serges, Cashmeres, Henriettas, Wool Sateens, Fine Broadcloths, Dress Flannels, Black and Colored Silks, Surah Silks in all Shades, Black Gros Grain Silks, Colored and Black Faille France, with SPECIAL TEMPTING INDUCEMENTS THIS COMING WEEK.

### CLOAK SALE.

This week we continue our CLEARING SALE in our New-Market Department, and we have cut the price of Each Garment to insure a quick sale. Below we quote a few prices, which are Surely of interest to EVERY LADY who intends to Purchase a Beaver Newmarket, a Jersey Newmarket, a Striped Newmarket, a Braided Newmarket, a Fancy Newmarket or a Newmarket of any shape, to EXAMINE OUR STOCK.

Ladies' Newmarkets, Sold at \$55.00. Reduced to \$42.00.  
Ladies' Newmarkets, Sold at \$35.00. Reduced to \$27.50.  
Ladies' Newmarkets, Sold at \$25.00. Reduced to \$19.00.  
Ladies' Newmarkets, Sold at \$20.00. Reduced to \$16.50.  
Ladies' Newmarkets, Sold at \$16.50. Reduced to \$12.35.  
Ladies' Newmarkets, Sold at \$15.00. Reduced to \$11.00.

### Ladies' English Walking Jackets.

Our \$20.00 JACKETS. - - - We Now Offer For \$15.00.  
Our \$15.00 JACKETS. - - - We Now Offer For \$12.50.  
Our \$12.50 JACKETS. - - - We Now Offer For \$10.00.  
Our \$10.00 JACKETS. - - - We Now Offer For \$ 7.50.  
Our \$ 7.50 JACKETS. - - - We Now Offer For \$ 6.00.

Children's Cloaks. Age from Two to Fourteen Years, Sold at a Discount of 25 Per Cent.

## Christmas Opening of Holiday Goods.

Our Stock is now open and ready for inspection. Goods may be Selected Now and we will hold and deliver them at any date desired.

# SANDS BROS., Helena, Mont.

WHITE, JOHNSTONE & CO.,  
ROOM 5, UNION BLOCK,  
REAL ESTATE BARGAINS!

HELENA.  
120 feet S. E. cor. Broadway and Alta.  
L. & N. Block 425 near cor. Warren and Tenth Avenue.  
100x137 feet cor. Warren and Eleventh Avenue.  
100 feet on Main street, between Lawrence and Eleventh Avenue.  
100 feet e. r. Main and Sixteenth Avenue.  
50 feet Main, near cor. Lyndale Avenue.  
130 feet fronting on both Park Avenue and Benton Avenue.  
20 feet cor. Boulder and Sanders for \$225.  
A cheap 100-foot cor. in Flower Garden addition.  
Very cheap property in N. P. addition, Highland Park addition and all other additions.

WHITE, JOHNSTONE & CO.,  
Room 5 Union Block. Foot of Broadway.

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Real Estate,  
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—AND—  
Insurance Agents.

At Greatly Reduced Prices. Below are a few Sample Prices:

Men's Fine French Calf H. S. Shoes, \$5.50  
Men's Fine American Calf H. S. Shoes, \$4.00  
Men's Fine Alligator H. S. Shoes, \$4.00  
Men's Fine Calf Shoes, \$3.50  
Men's Fine Calf Shoes, \$3.00  
Men's Fine Calf Shoes, \$2.50  
Men's Fine Double-sole Grain Shoes, \$2.50  
Men's Fine Double-sole Rip-walting Shoes, \$2.00

TELEPHONE 266.

Bargains in All the Additions. Cheap Adjacent Acre Property. Largest Property List to Select From.

Represent Best Insurance Companies. Losses Promptly and Satisfactorily Adjusted.

\$100.00 TO LOAN.

Farm and Ranch Loans a Specialty. Correspondence Solicited.

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To Order.

Books Neatly Ruled and Printed. Call and See what we can do.

## TREMENDOUS REDUCTIONS

—On All Our—  
Ladies' Misses' & Children's  
LONG FINE NEWMARKETS, SEAL PLUSHES,  
JACKETS, Etc.

We are Overstocked and Must Sacrifice in Order to Close before the Season is Over. Buy while the Tide is Sweeping Out such Seasonable Goods. Call and See what we are Obligated to do.  
We are Fully Prepared for the Holidays with a Big Assortment of Suitable Goods.

## BRUNELL & CO.

HELENA AND GREAT FALLS.

## S. C. ASHBY & CO.

"Common Sense" Bobs,  
Mitchell Farm and Spring Wagons,  
Fine Sleighs, Harness, Lap Robes,  
Bells, Carriages, Buggies, Carts, Etc.

## GLIDDEN BARB WIRE.

## NORTH GREAT FALLS!

The Coming Manufacturing Town of the Northwest!

Situated on an Elevated Plateau North of the Missouri river, opposite Black Eagle Falls.

This town has just been laid off and Platted into Lots, which are now offered at exceedingly Moderate Prices.

It adjoins the grounds of the Boston and Montana Company, on which will be erected their immense plant for their Smelter, Refinery and Copper Manufacturing. These works will give constant employment to thousands of men, and constitute a permanent source of prosperity for the town of North Great Falls. The town is so situated that it will derive great and increasing benefits from the numerous factories that will seek the great water power at this point on the Missouri river.

It is surrounded by a magnificent agricultural region. Coal and Iron are found in abundant quantities within a few miles. The completion of the Neihart branch, now under construction, will within a few months, connect this town with the rich mineral fields of the Neihart and neighboring districts, and the extension of the Manitoba railroad will speedily render the Coeur d'Alene region tributary to North Great Falls.

An immense dam across the Missouri opposite North Great Falls will be completed by September next, at an approximate cost of \$500,000, giving in its construction employment for a large number of men, and rendering available an immense water power.

The workshops of the Boston and Montana Company, to be built during the coming season, will give employment to a small army of men and be the cause of an expenditure approaching a million dollars. To complete the dam and the workshops by the time contemplated will necessitate covering the ground with workmen from the beginning of February next for the balance of the season of 1890.

Desirable Residence Lots for sale at \$100, \$200 and \$300. Business Lots at \$350. Terms: One Half down, balance one and two years.

MATHESON & STEELE,  
129 1-2 North Main Street.